

5440-06 Modern and Classical Languages

The holder is authorized to teach a modern (including American Sign Language) and/or classical language(s) in grades PK-6, 7-12, or PK-12, as specified on the endorsement.

In order to qualify for this endorsement, the candidate shall demonstrate the following:

Knowledge Standards:

Demonstrates knowledge of foreign language and language education concepts and skills delineated in current national professional standards¹ and in Vermont's *Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities* including:

Proficiency in speaking, reading, writing, and aural comprehension in the target language(s)

For American Sign Language:

Proficiency in receptive and expressive language

The structure, phonetic system, and different socio-linguistic levels of the target language(s)

For American Sign Language:

The application of concepts of phonology, syntax, morphology, and pragmatics to the teaching of American Sign Language

The practices, products, and perspectives of the target culture(s), including a broad general foundation in the arts, history, geography, economics, and literature of the target culture(s)

For American Sign Language:

Knowledge of the history, social structure, artistic, and literary contributions of the Deaf culture

The ability to interpret contemporary lifestyles, customs, and cultural patterns of the Deaf culture in American Sign Language-speaking regions

The individual and societal advantages of foreign language learning

The developmental process of second language acquisition at the early childhood/elementary and/or middle/secondary levels

Research-based instructional methods and strategies that develop foreign language communication skills as a process and articulate continuous sequences of instruction across the early childhood/elementary and/or middle/secondary instructional levels

Performance Standards:

Implements a foreign language curriculum that provides students with opportunities to achieve the cultural and linguistic outcomes specified in current national professional standards and in Vermont's *Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities*. Specifically the educator:

Applies knowledge of research-based methods and strategies for teaching foreign languages and cultures to the design of developmentally appropriate learning activities for students with diverse learning styles, interests, and linguistic backgrounds

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Uses authentic documents and materials (such as music, art, food, literature, or newspapers) in order to develop students' understanding and appreciation of the target culture's history, geographical regions, values, and customs

Selects and incorporates instructional media appropriate to foreign language learning, including authentic print and electronic materials from the target culture

Focuses teaching on the development of cross-cultural and linguistic competence through critical thinking and communicative activities

Integrates classroom curricular themes with the foreign language curriculum (early childhood/elementary)

Advocates for all students to learn a foreign language and culture at the earliest possible age

Additional Requirements:

A major in a modern or classical language, or the equivalent in undergraduate and/or graduate coursework. (Native speakers and speakers of ASL are exempt from this requirement.)

A minimum of a practicum, or the equivalent, in modern and classical languages at the elementary (PK-6) or middle/secondary (7-12) instructional level, depending on the authorization sought. For the full PK-12 authorization, a minimum of a practicum, or the equivalent, in modern and classical languages at both the PK-6 and 7-12 instructional levels is required.

¹ e.g., *Standards for Foreign Language Learning: Preparing for the 21st Century* (1999, National Standards in Foreign Language Education Project)